

**Amendment No. 2 to SB3063**

**Graves  
Signature of Sponsor**

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 3063\***

**House Bill No. 3092**

**FILED**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Comm. Amdt. \_\_\_\_\_

by deleting all language following the caption and before the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, the general assembly recognizes the importance to all Tennesseans of promoting appropriate and quality care for those with mental health or chemical dependency problems; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly is cognizant of the need to safeguard the confidential nature of any and all information shared about a patient with a mental health problem, recognizing that utilization review processes for mental health and chemical dependency problems are different than those processes utilized to review the care of physical disorders; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly seeks to determine if there are existing barriers to care for mental health and chemical dependency in the form of unnecessary administrative or access requirements, excessive paperwork or utilization review processes, or late payment of claims;

AND FURTHER AMEND by adding the following language after the enacting clause of the printed bill:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a special joint committee to study the need for mental health and chemical dependency utilization review. The committee shall study whether persons who recommend denial of care or determine that a service is not clinically appropriate should be licensed in an

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appropriate mental health discipline and specialty area. The activities of the TennCare program shall not be included in the study.

SECTION 2. The committee shall study and consider reasonable and appropriate guidelines for utilization review procedures, precertification processes, and continuation of care protocols for different levels of care for mental health and chemical dependency conditions including inpatient, residential, partial hospitalization, wrap-around services, outpatient, and other programs for both in-network and out-of-network providers and facilities.

SECTION 3. The committee shall review record keeping and precertification requirements for individuals treated for mental health or chemical abuse disorders and shall recommend reasonable and appropriate guidelines for such requirements. Record keeping recommendations shall be made with sensitivity relative to the extreme privacy and confidentiality needs of the mental health or chemical dependency.

SECTION 4. The special joint committee shall be composed of three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate, and three (3) members of the House of, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 5. All appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

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SECTION 6. All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the general assembly.

SECTION 7. The special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly; and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

SECTION 8. The special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the One Hundred Second General Assembly no later than March 1, 2001, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.